

MOTION PICTURE NEWS

THE BEST MOTION PICTURES AND WHERE TO FIND THEM

Motion Picture Cameras Now For Local Or Family Events

You Can "Film" Your Friends, Your Best Girl, the Little Red or Big Stone Schoolhouse, or the Burning of Brown's Barn—A Far Superior Record to the Old Family Bible.

DO YOU want to take moving pictures of your friends, your father, your mother, of your children at play, of your birthday, of the school you attended when a boy, or of the old swimmin' hole or of your best girl?

There has lately been put upon the market a moving picture camera for amateurs which in every way is capable of taking a picture equal to that made by the regulation studio machine, but which on account of its reduced size will not hold quite as much film. The machine, while practical in every sense, is not so large or intricate as the camera used by the operators in moving picture studios. However, it takes the same size picture on the same film with the same perforations as does the professional camera.

It is estimated that a negative and one positive can be turned out by this camera at a cost of approximately 9 cents a foot, including printing and developing. The magazines have a capacity for 100 feet of film.

Amateurs who are ambitious to make some pocket money could use this camera to film local events which might afterward prove of national importance. Negatives could be sold to the regular manufacturers of films or to a local exhibition theater at good prices.

The company selling the camera has developed and printed dozens of pictures taken by amateurs using its camera, and with two exceptions, due to underexposure, the films have been satisfactory. The lens in the camera is a Hansch & Lomh Zeiss-Tessar 35 millimeter and is used in professional cameras which have sold for double the price. The camera, with tripod, tilting table, panorama and carrying cases, costs \$150.

For Local Events. The Village Improvement society is campaigning to clean up the streets or "back yards," or if the daily papers are endeavoring to enlist the voters to ballot for the local dam or bridge there is a field open to the amateur motion picture maker who can "follow" up the crusade with his camera. Local exhibitors would be delighted to have films of this nature.

A film showing the burning of Brown's barn would be of more value to the theater in the neighborhood of the barn than a three reel film of the Balkan war.

Then there is the small town "barbecue," the coast village clam bake or "Old Home Week." In a small town in the eastern part of Texas an amateur with a motion picture camera recently snapped a "far and feather"

party. He had been "tipped off" that the affair would be staged in a wood some miles out of the town.

Woven Into Longer Reels. Acting upon the hint, the amateur took up an advantageous position and "caught" the proceedings from start to finish. The film was supposed after three days' capacity exhibition in the local motion picture theater, but the young man finally found a market for his film with a New York manufacturer, who incorporated the far and feather incident as the climax of a three reel "comic." Incidentally the manufacturer paid a good price to the amateur for the 200 foot reel.

It is not to be disputed that local items interest draw more money to a moving picture house, school or church entertainment than do the cut and dried stories depicted in the same old way everywhere by every body.

"Filming" the Family. A New York youngster with a photographic bent recently sold his camera and bought an amateur's motion picture machine. From time to time he "filmed" the various members of the family—sister with the young man who came down from New Haven on Saturday afternoon; father in his office negotiating what his son entitled "Big Wall Street Deal"; mother playing bridge at the "Ladies' Literary club," and granny trying on a new Lucile gown.

During the Christmas holidays the youngster entertained the family and their friends in his playroom on the top floor with a continuous performance. The music room pianola accompanied the pictures with an appropriate programme of music, and each reel was introduced by dictaphone records of the voices of those members of his family who were subsequently flashed on the screen. Both the photograph voice records and the motion pictures at the close of the exhibition were carefully put away in the household safe. The latter, incidentally, is known as "The Family Bible."

For Local Advertising. The purchaser of an amateur motion picture camera spent last summer soliciting "advertising" from small-town business men for local motion picture theaters.

The young man induced the merchants to have their auto delivery trucks and wagons "filmed" for exhibition during the intermission in the local theater while the daily show reels were wound and adjusted.

The young man earned enough money during the summer to pay his way through college during the ensuing year.

There are five American film manufacturing firms who employ a corps of motion picture photographers to collect material for the "weekly" reels of current events.

These firms, Pathé Freres, the Universal Film Manufacturing company, the Kinemacolor company, the Gaumont company and the Mutual Film corporation are always eager to obtain reels of local interest. For instance, if the furniture factory in Grand Rapids burns to the ground and you, as an amateur "matographer," "caught" the fire, drop a wire at once to one of these companies. No doubt they will be glad to insert your value in the regular "weekly" reel which is sent to the film exchange in Detroit or in the metropolis of western Michigan, Grand Rapids.

The company selling this camera announces that it is "constantly on the lookout for pictures of current events which are of wide or national interest, and are willing to pay the best price for them. Pictures of this nature can command from 25 to 75 cents per foot, and we agree to pay for all such pictures, which are acceptable for this purpose under suitable resale, the best price obtainable for them."

This offers an important means for securing additional compensation for pictures outside of the regular exchange when used locally. Events of national importance are happening constantly in different parts of the country, and at only one person equipped for immediate service that is in a position to secure them.

Film Flicks

THE Pathé Freres have issued their camera men credentials on account of a number of "wild cat" operators representing themselves to be camera men for the weekly.

The advisory committee of the national board of censors consists of 55 members and includes such men as Andrew Carnegie, Lyman Abbott, Samuel Gompers, etc. All licensed films are viewed by the board before being allowed to be shown to the public.

Ned Finley, a Broadway favorite, is the latest recruit to the picture ranks. He has joined the Vitagraph company.

Fred Mace, formerly of the Biograph and Keystone companies, has quit the latter. Before appearing in the pictures Mace had a national reputation as a comic opera comedian. His biggest hit was "The Umbrella."

William Selig, the head of the Selig company, is now in Los Angeles. He will probably remain a month as some more big animal pictures are to be produced. Kathlyn Williams will appear in most of them.

William J. Burns has come to the conclusion that there is real work in posing for the pictures. He at first refused to appear, as he said there was too great a difference between the popular conception and the actual appearance of a real detective works and the popular conception and he agreed to appear only on condition that he be allowed to work his own way and not as some director might think that he ought to work. The Burns picture was made in Washington, Florida and New York.

There will soon be a bunch of war films. Nearly all of the big companies are at work on multireel productions.

When "The Prisoner of Zenda" was first shown, it was before an audience of professionals. James K. Hackett was on the back row ready to run if it were a failure. He said the ordeal was worse than a first night, but he stuck it out and modestly confessed that he thought he "did fairly well."

Daniel Frohman said it was great and as he was putting up the money he ought know.

Edwin August, one of the photoplay matinee heroes, is now with the western company of the Vitagraph.

Admirers of "Little Mary," the former leading woman of the Biograph, will be pleased to learn that Mary is to appear in one more Biograph. It is called "The Unwelcome Guest" and is to be released soon by the Biograph company. It was made over six months ago, but held up until the present time.

Little Mary, who, by the way, is Mary Pickford on the stage and Mrs. Owen Moore in private life, made such a hit in "Belasco's" "The Devil" that there is small chance of her returning to the pictures soon.

May Buckley, the well known leading woman, will take another try at the pictures. She has joined the Selig Chicago studio. She was with Lubin about a year ago for a short time and then became leading woman of a Cleveland stock company.

Vivian Prescott, one of the big favorites of the Biograph company when that company's output led the world, has gone to Lubin. She has been with the Imp company for some time.

Lubin is preparing to put out some Arabian dramas with the sands of Florida showing the desert.

Kaiser Wilhelm recently posed for a 250 foot reel of pictures. Wonder how he liked the posing the director gave him.

Little Brisco, who plays opposite Arthur Johnson, has 20 trunks of clothes.

Six London schools are to have moving picture machines installed for educational purposes.

Ruth Stonehouse, the Essanay leading woman, is out and working again after a serious illness.

The Famous Players company which produced "Queen Elizabeth" and "The Prisoner of Zenda," are going in for educational films. The veteran producer, Daniel Frohman, is one of the principal owners of the company.

"Buster," more properly known as Roswell Johnson, of the Lubin company, has a sister. His father, also Roswell, has a daughter (very naturally) and she is to be called Ormi Hawley Johnson, to further add to the confusion. Ever since Buster was added to the Lubin staff there have been questions immemorial as to whether "Buster" was Arthur Johnson's son, though Raymond and Alfred Hackett, who really are the Johnson offspring, never are linked up with their better-known father. To head of any confusion as to whether Ormi Hawley Johnson is the son of Arthur Johnson and Ormi Hawley, he said at once that she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roswell Johnson and that Mrs. Johnson is not Miss Hawley. Johnson turns the camera for George O. Nichols, who directs the Hawley section of the Lubin company. That's why.

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Lost Ones Are Found On Screen

Strange Cases of Identification at Moving Picture Shows.

From time to time the public has learned through the press of reconciliations effected, of criminals being traced and of long lost relatives and friends being united through the medium of the motion picture screen.

Only recently a motion picture actor, long separated from his relatives, was recognized in pictures projected half way round the world from where the films were originally staged.

Arthur Mackley, director of the Essanay's Los Angeles company, was born in Scotland and has not been home for 25 years. A number of years ago, when his mother died, correspondence with his brothers and sisters in Scotland gradually died out, until he had lost all track of his family. Recently Mackley turned out a picture in which he played the part of a western dentist. In casting about for a name to put on the sign in front of the dentist's office he chose "John Mackley" and it appeared in the picture.

In Scotland two of his sisters attended a motion picture theater and saw the film. They thought they noted a family resemblance when Mackley came into the picture, but when the name was flashed later they became certain that it was their brother. Without further investigation, a nephew of Mackley whom he had never seen—a young man 25 years old—was sent at once to the United States to seek his uncle.

Landing in New York, he addressed a

Women's Charity

At the offices of the Woman's Charity association last month a far greater number of Americans needing assistance applied than in any recent period. The Charity workers strive earnestly to adjust squarely the claims of the various classes of applicants for aid.

The Charity obtained half rate transportation to other localities for a half dozen Americans during the month. Within a few years these may be far removed from economic need. On the other hand food was dispensed to Mexican families who will need such help again, when health or the daily job fails.

A garden has been made at the Baby hospital, 435 South Campbell street. Harassed mothers of sick American children should know that the head nurse at the hospital knows how to care for a sick child better than many mothers know.

The garden needs more plants. Flowers and trees and shrubs look better than dusty spaces. It is a charity to plant them and tend them. Phone to the Baby hospital if you can spare some plants out of your own garden. A messenger will be sent for them.

Seventeen Mexican women applied for jobs of housework in one day. They did not want to "stay nights," could speak about as much English as we Mexican, but they wanted work. The most honorable need in the world. The good people of El Paso can help very much by finding places for these applicants. The Mexican applicants want work, while the Americans ask for transportation. The Mexican is invariably grateful for what is done.

Copies of the film enlargement were sent broadcast over the country. Brownell went hunting in the woods of northern Michigan several years ago and never returned. Thousands of dollars were spent by Mrs. Brownell in an unsuccessful search for him, lasting several months. Hunger and exposure are believed to have unbalanced Brownell's mind so that when he was finally rescued it is believed he had lost all remembrance of his home and friends.

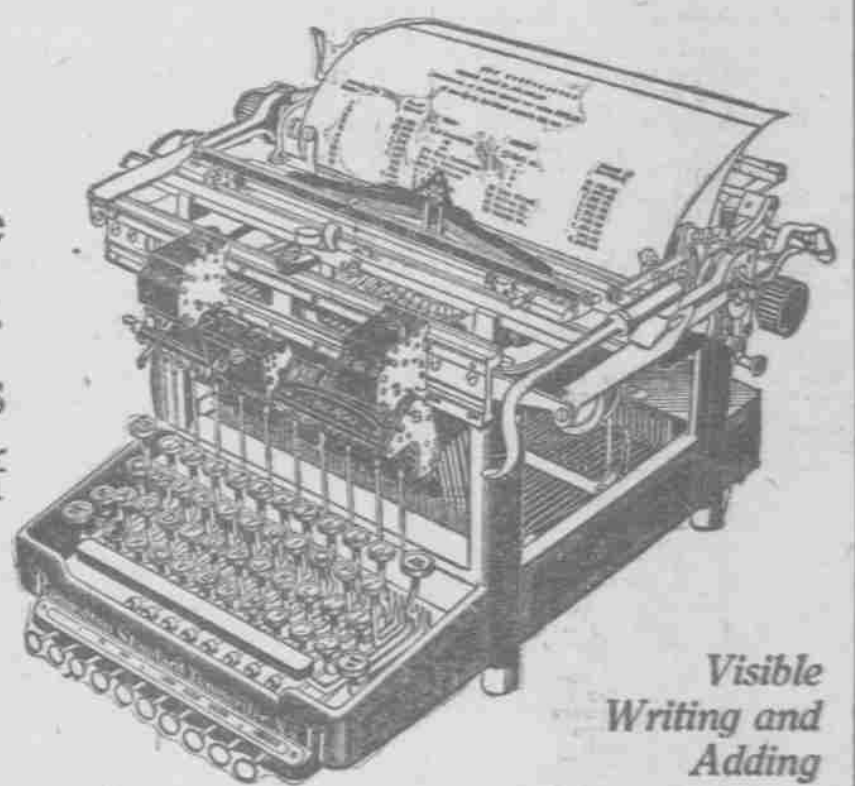
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